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THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, MAY 17, 1900.

An Important Decision.

The decision of the United States supreme court, declaring the legacy tax law passed by Congress, with all its provisions for progressive taxation, constitutional, is one of the most important deliveries of that body which has been handed down for some years past. Of the three points authoritatively established by the court the first and most important is the acceptance of the progressive or cumulative principle in taxation. The second is the renewed assertion of the right of the federal government to tax successions in spite of the fact that the transmission of property by death is exclusively a subject of state jurisdiction. Third, the court holds that a legacy tax is not a "direct tax" and therefore is not required by the constitution to be apportioned among the states according to population.

In commenting on the conclusions reached by the court the Philadelphia Press asserts that "as the federal legacy tax is limited to personal property none of these conclusions applies to the transmission of realty; but the decision establishes the general principle that as far as personal property is concerned the weight of taxation may vary with the amount of property."

Of these conclusions by far and by odds the most important is the first. The decision of the court was indeed foreshadowed by its finding in the Illinois legacy tax case two years ago. Mr. Justice McKenna held in that case that the Illinois law did not deny the equal rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, though the exemption clause was \$500 for distant kin and \$25,000 for near, and the tax rose for the former with the size of the estate from 3 to 6 per cent. While this decision established the interpretation of the Illinois constitution, this only requires uniformity in taxation "as to the class upon which it operates." The federal constitution puts no limitation on uniform taxation. The supreme court in this state held that the exemption of \$5,000 in the direct inheritance act rendered it invalid as granting an unconstitutional exemption. The federal statute exempts legacies under \$10,000. Supreme courts in Missouri, Ohio, Minnesota and New Hampshire have on various grounds held cumulative taxation on legacies unconstitutional within a few years.

The law on the subject could, therefore, by no means be held to be certain in this country until the decision just made. It is sure enough now. The court accepts all three phases of the law—the exemption below a certain amount, whose effect it greatly increases; the classification by proximity of kin, with an increasing percentage as the relationship to the deceased decreases, and an increasing tax with increasing property. All three the court holds to be "uniform" under the constitution. Such a decision is undoubtedly popular and agrees with the general trend of public opinion.

Senator Clark's Case.

It would appear to most people that Senator Clark's case was somewhat belated. The sentimental stage in his case has long since been passed. If Senator Clark is as innocent of wrong doing as he wishes the public to believe why did he not face the issue instead of resigning? The only way a man can escape the penalties for his crimes when he is confined in jail is by breaking out. Senator Clark escaped punishment by resigning. There is little difference between the two cases. Besides Senator Clark took a very opportune time for resigning, a time when he knew the governor of his state, who was opposed to him, was away, and that the lieutenant governor, who belonged to his faction of corruptionists, would appoint him to fill the vacancy. This action does not look like Mr. Clark is as innocent as he claims to be. It was a trick to escape the force of the condemnation of the senate, whose committee was almost unanimous in bringing in a report declaring that his seat be declared vacant. Of course the action of the senate was of tremendous import to Mr. Clark, but that body could not afford to stultify itself by admitting to its presence a man who had been so thoroughly disqualified as was Mr. Clark.

The present aspect of the case presents some difficult problems, and it remains to be seen whether Mr. Clark can escape his just deserts through resignation and appointment. He is just as much discredited to-day as he was yesterday, and it is exceedingly doubtful if the senate recognizes his appointment by the lieutenant governor.

A case occurred in the house of representatives some years ago when a congressman from South Carolina was

found guilty of selling a West Point cadetship. The house promptly disavowed him. The governor of South Carolina immediately issued a proclamation for a special election, which resulted in the offending congressman being returned, but the house refused to receive him. He was the same man who had once disqualified himself, and fifty re-elections could not purge him of the crime the house found him to be guilty of. Mr. Clark, by his own admissions, has convicted himself, and he stands before the bar of public opinion to-day as a briber and corruptionist. His appointment to the same position in no way wipes out the stain he himself has put upon his name.

Aiding Agriculture.

The address of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, yesterday, at the Southern Industrial Convention, in session at Chattanooga, shows the great importance of the department of agriculture to the country at large and the farmers specifically. Of the matters discussed by Secretary Wilson he says the most important problems that have engaged the attention of the department during the past three years were concerning the suppression and eradication of contagious and infectious diseases of domestic animals, which have been carefully studied. The diseases selected for investigation have been those which experience and recorded observation have proved to be most injurious from an economic point of view. Especial attention has been given to the cattle disease known as "balckleg," a disease which, although it occurs more or less throughout the United States, was not recognized as a cause of very serious losses until about four years ago. The animal parasites of sheep have been given careful attention, and comparative tests have been made of the most promising methods of treatment. The preparation of anti-toxic serums for hog cholera and swine plague has been conducted on a large, practical and experimental scale. The method of serum treatment at present is not perfect, but it has given uniformly much better results than any other methods of treating these diseases in swine than has heretofore been suggested.

Experimental reports of selected creamery butter were made to England with the purpose of directing attention to the fine butter produced to sell in English markets. The operations were regarded as reasonably satisfactory in a business way as well as otherwise, while, at the same time, a number of points were developed showing where greater economy could be practiced in the experiments which were to follow. Some interesting and satisfactory experiments in the shipment of eggs, with the same objects in view, have also been conducted. Within a few weeks shipments of sweet potatoes have been made to Great Britain with a view to teaching the people over there the value of that article of food, and also to ascertain the facts regarding practical methods of shipment.

"The activities of the division of forestry," says Secretary Wilson, "have been transferred from the office to the forests. Practical forestry on a large scale has been introduced among the lumbermen, a beginning of effective co-operation with tree planters over a considerable portion of the country has been made, and experts in lumbering, tree planting, etc., have been brought into the division. Over 2,000,000 acres of land in thirty-four states have been offered to the forestry for experimental, and work is being done on the public reserves of the United States. The effect of grazing on forest reserves is being studied."

"The United States imports a great many things that can very well be produced inside our own limits. The division of botany is studying these things. For example, our imports of chicory in 1896 had a value of \$225,228. Our imports for the years 1898 and 1899 had a value of \$14,877 and \$13,470, respectively. As thus indicated, the chicory consumed in the United States is now produced almost exclusively by our own farmers. This is a striking illustration of the best American farming methods as applied to a foreign agricultural industry. Several other crops of foreign countries are now under investigation."

Bribery Charges.

The disclosures made in council Tuesday night, of the attempted bribery of two members of the second branch, and the statement that the city solicitor had been approached and offered money to give a favorable opinion on the proposition to bond certain saloon keepers, are matters of too serious a nature to be passed over with a mere expression of indignation.

It has been pretty well known that attempts have been made before to bribe councilmen by this impudent class of law breakers, but Tuesday night was the first time those approached have made definite statements. The methods employed by this deplorable class of citizens to secure privileges to debauch the community show how desperate they are in their determination to attempt to over-ride the decent and orderly sentiments of the people of Wheeling. There should be a most searching investigation by council, and an inquiry by the grand jury. Furthermore the establishments that have failed to secure license should be under the strict surveillance of the police to prevent them from carrying on their illegal traffic. There should be no cooling of courage in this matter. Strike now while the iron is hot.

A Misleading Statement.

Regarding the Intelligencer's criticism and attack upon the representative of the Register credited with the management of the Democratic primary election, it may be remarked that a representative of the Intelligencer manages Ohio county Republican affairs in his own personal interests and those of a small coterie of close party friends, using machine methods throughout, and excluding from his paper news unfavorable to his cause.—Register.

The Intelligencer regrets that its playful reference to the manner in which the Democratic primaries were managed, or rather mismanaged, should have so deeply wounded the feelings of the county chairman and provoked him to give utterance through his paper to the above misleading statements. The Register refers undoubtedly to Mr. James K. Hall, and it may be well to state at this point that this is the first time his name has appeared in the editorial columns of this paper since his

avowed candidacy for the Republican nomination for state auditor. It can be most specifically stated that Mr. Hall has no connection with this paper whatever, and has no voice in dictating its policies. We know there are some people who will question this statement, persons whose purposes suit them to believe otherwise and who will refuse to be convinced on the most indubitable proofs. To them the Intelligencer does not address itself, but it would like to impress upon the fair and honest-minded portion of the citizens of this state that the expression used in the above quotation from the Register's editorial, in referring to Mr. Hall, "excluding from HIS paper news unfavorable to his cause," is wholly and unqualifiedly false. This is said as much in justice to Mr. Hall as it is to set the Intelligencer right before those people who are pleased to have some confidence in its integrity and fairness.

TIME-WORN AND IDIOTIC.

Senator Tillman's Absurd Retort to Those Who Hissed Him in Michigan.

Rochester Democrat: The other night Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, lectured at Ann Arbor, Mich., by invitation of the good government league. In the course of his address he referred to colored students in a manner that circumstances made especially offensive, tactless, and gratuitously insulting to a portion of his audience. He was hissed for it as he deserved to be. The hissing elicited from Senator Tillman the following truly brilliant, original and novel retort: "When that man who hissed gets ready to give his daughter in marriage to a negro and proves by his actions and not by his hisses that he means business, I will apologize, and not before." We are informed by the telegraphed report of the incident that "the applause which greeted this retort was tremendous and there was no more hissing during the evening."

The story furnishes a conspicuous illustration of the well-known but curious superiority of stupid, shop-worn fallacies over sound arguments as instruments for convincing human reason and silencing an opponent in debate. In the days when slavery was a live issue in this country and sidewalk arguments, bar-room debates, and hotel corridor contentions between anti-slavery men and pro-slavery men were every-day incidents, every such argument, debate or contention was brought to a close with the "argumentum ad hominem," triumphantly launched by the pro-slavery man, "would you like your daughter to marry a negro?" And that settled it. The listening crowd of presumably reasonable human beings hailed the pro-slavery debater as the victor, and nothing that the anti-slavery man might say could relieve him from the stigma of having "got the worst of it."

As a rule he had nothing to say. Knowing that he would not like to have his daughter marry a negro, even he was apt to feel that all ground for argument was cut from under his feet. Of course it is quite unnecessary to say that the fact that the anti-slavery man didn't want his daughter to marry a negro never had anything to do with the case and that no man concerned in the discussion, as participant or listener, could, if it were to save his life, have pointed out what he supposed to be the logical connections between that fact and the point under discussion. But that made no difference. The utterly stupid and senseless fallacy always carried conviction with it.

Years have passed. Negro slavery is dead as a door nail. All reasonable arguments for and against negro slavery are dead with it. But the silly, stupid, senseless old fallacy is, it appears, as much alive and as irresistibly convincing as ever. "Would you like your daughter to marry a negro?" You would not. Then there is no possible objection to negro slavery. Would you like your daughter to marry a negro? You would not. Then there is no possible objection to any stupid, senseless, brutal, insolent lie I choose to tell about negroes.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Hell hath no fury like a woman's scorn. Every woman who owns one cat always needs about four.

You can always tell whether a man is married or not by the way he doesn't pet the cat.

Ever girl some time or other has powdered her face so as to make some man think she is suffering silently.

A woman who streaks her eyebrows always acts like it was such a foolish thing for a man to dye his mustache.

When a woman says she knows her new hat doesn't become her one bit she expects you to act like you thought she was a fool.—New York Press.

ONE ON MAMMA.

A maiden sat reading a letter. Her cheeks were like roses a-bloom: "From your own sweetheart Thomas," she finished. As her mother came into the room,

"What's this?" the harsh mother cried sternly. "This talking of sweetness," said she, "A letter from that young fool, Thomas. Pray hand it right over to me."

"Dear mother, I'll read you the letter," said the maiden, with a voice quite so demure. "I know it will please you to hear it. For it's a nice letter, I'm sure."

"Dear Laura, I've love you so madly. To-night I am lonely and lorn. With calm voice the maiden was reading. The mother was listening with scorn.

"I know that your parents don't like me. But where there's a will there's a way. And I shall tell you of my wedding. The bold lover went on to say,

"Stop! Stop!" cried the mother in anger, "I never in a day long life saw a letter so stuff'd with nonsense. Such a fool to be seeking a wife."

"Hush, mother," the daughter said, softly. "And say nothing that you will rue. For I have just read to you, mother, 'An old letter paper sent to me.'"

—Charles Collins.

Relief in Six Hours.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by "New Great South American Kidney Cure." It is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in bladder, kidneys and back, in mere minutes. Relieves retention of water almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is the remedy. Sold by R. H. List, druggist, Wheeling, W. Va.

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Of mind and body was the Roman idea of perfect health. They defined this balance as "a sound mind in a sound body." A weak or sickly body tends to drag down the mind to its own level. Keep the body in health and the mind will take care of itself. The health of the body depends mainly on two things: A sound stomach and pure blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery preserves the balance of health, because it makes the stomach strong and the blood pure. People who had not had a well day in years, nervous of body, depressed of mind, have been perfectly cured by the use of "Golden Medical Discovery."

"During the summer and fall of 1895 I became ill run down," writes Charles H. Sergeant, Esq., of Plain City, Madison Co., Ohio. "nerves were out of order and stomach was out of order. I wrote to Doctor Pierce for advice. He said I had general debility, and advised Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I used six bottles, and since I stopped taking it, about one year ago, I have not taken any medicine of any kind, and have been able to work every day. My appetite is good. I do not feel that burning in the stomach after eating, and my blood and nerves are in good shape."

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser, paper covers, is sent free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Address Dr. Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y.

NEWSPAPER WAIFS.

Behind the Scenes.—Sue Brett—Footlights can't be such a much as an actor. Ham Lett—Because why? Sue Brett—He married fifteen years ago, and has never been divorced.—Chicago News

"Can't you set a date for the payment of this little bill?" asked the collector. "I could if it weren't for one thing," answered the debtor. "What is that?" "I want to sustain my reputation for truth and veracity."—Chicago Evening Post.

At a Low Ebb.—"I repent, gentlemen," said the orator, "the influence of the press has departed—give way, there, you fellows in front, and stop crowding the reporters. How can they do their work under such conditions?"—Philadelphia North American.

An Impression of Size.—"Did you dance until the wee sma' hours?" asked one young man. "No, I didn't. We danced till the last car had gone, and I had to walk three miles. They were the biggest hours I ever remember having encountered."—Washington Star.

Everywhere were men with newspapers, devouring with feverish eagerness the foul details of this horrible murder. "Morbidity curiosity!" we finally sneered, with indignation. "No, we are disqualifying ourselves to sit as jurors!" they protested, and sighed wearily.—Detroit Journal.

Foxy Sages.—Jimmy—Scientists predicted that two million years dis world will be nuthin' but a vast ball of ice! Johnny—Dem scientists is foxy! Yer notice dey never predict nuthin' on a dog-fight or a prize-fight or a selection; it's allus suthin' yer can't nail 'em wid a bet on!—Puck.

Has Its Share.—City Acquaintance—I suppose you never have any labor troubles in your community, do you? Uncle Jerry. Peebles of (Skeedunk)—Labor troubles? We have 'em reg'lar every spring. It's about all we can do, let me tell you, to get people to work out their road tax!—Chicago Tribune.

Polygamy and Alcoholism Among the Birds.

Appleton's Popular Science Monthly: Crow blackbirds are common to this locality during the summers, and they are found in our pastures with the cattle. I have never found their eggs in the nests of other birds, but they are Mormonistic in their habits, one often having as many as a dozen wives, and I have known the crow blackbird to have more than one mate.

Some years ago an article went the rounds of the newspapers, telling of a man catching a flock of crows by soaking corn in alcohol and leaving it for the crows to eat, and when they became drunk he caught them. I tried bread crumbs soaked in whiskey on English sparrows, but they would not eat them, and I finally got a crow, and though I kept him until he was very hungry, I could not get him to eat corn soaked in whiskey, and he found no difficulty in picking up every unsoaked kernel and leaving the others. You may draw your own moral, but I am satisfied that the crow will not eat food saturated with alcohol. He is either too uncivilized or too intelligent.

THERE is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from ten drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

WE have an upright Chickering & Sons Piano which we received this week from a party to whom we sold a Stutz & Bauer Piano, which we will offer this week at a very low price.

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ment of Fred G. Berger.

Night prices—25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00.

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POLITICAL.

REPUBLICAN MASS MEETINGS.

Mass meetings of the Republican voters of Ohio county for the purpose of electing delegates to the First District Congressional Convention, which meets at Weston, W. Va., on June 6, will be held on Thursday, May 17, 1900, at 7:30 o'clock p. m. in all of the districts except Liberty district, where the meeting will be held at 2 o'clock p. m.

The meetings will be held at the following places: Washington District—Vigilant Engine House. Madison District—Seventh Ward Engine House. Clay District—Chemical Engine House. Union District—Police Court Room. Centre District—Hartman's Hall, corner Twenty-third and Market streets. Webster District—Pythian Castle. Ritchie District—Knock's Hall, No. 2519 Jacob street. Triadelphia District—Hand's Hall, Elm Grove. Liberty District—Centre School House. Madison District—Brick School House. Washington, Madison, Clay, Union, Centre, Webster and Ritchie districts will elect seven (7) delegates each, and Triadelphia, Liberty and Ritchland districts will elect six (6) delegates each.

The delegates elected under this call shall have the authority to appoint their alternates.

By order of the Ohio County Republican Executive Committee.

W. H. LYLE, Secretary. my11

REPUBLICAN CALENDAR.

June 6—First Congressional District Nominating Convention, Weston. July 11—State Nominating Convention, Charleston.

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